

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 as follows:

I. Please insert the following paragraph before the first line of the Specification:

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

This application is a U.S. National Stage Application under 35 U.S.C. §371 of PCT International Application No. PCT/EP00/01748, filed March 1, 2000, which claims priority to German Patent Application DE 199 26 006.0, filed June 8, 1999.

II. Please amend paragraph 0032 of the Specification as follows:

If the intention is to transmit a "1"-signal, then output transistor T_Opto1 of transmitter circuit part 2a opens and the entire current I_Q flows back from power supply 6 to the ground potential via data transmission line 8b, transistor T_Opto1 and the ground line (reference potential line 8a). The voltage level of data transmission line 8b is nearly 0V (collector-emitter voltage of optocoupler Opto1 in the enabled condition $V_{CE_SAT_T_Opto1} \approx 0.2V$).